PUDUKKOTTAI STATE

WAR INFORMATION BUREAU

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LECTURE LXIV.

RADIO AND THE WAR.

The history of communication shows, alas, the same degeneration of intention and increase of efficacy as many other quondam blessings of humanity. The same science that aimed at the extermination of disease or the increase of crops, also provides poison gas and high explosive. The internal combustion engine produces quicker travel, and increased trade. It also produces the tank and the submarine. The beating of *lokalis* and smokes of signal fires have given place to the regulation of waves in the ether, and 'Radio' hailed so short a time ago as a harbinger of good fellowship and peace, is proving much more efficient as a *Weapon of War*, for instead of exchanging messages of mutual and constructive good will, modern nations spend their time hurtling *tons* of insults and subversive propaganda across space.

Nevertheless, Broadcasting, which is what is usually understood by the term "Radio", has at least some of the same uses in War as during peace-time. Programmes, which were designed for the entertainment of adults and children, are now redesigned and broadcast for the pleasure of troops at home and abroad. A stranded garrison, outposts far from civilisation, ships in distant waters, munition-workers working unthought of hours per week in order to raise production to peak figures,

all now can listen to the latest swing music, the newest wise-cracks and gags, and special topical programmes just as they used to listen sitting in comfort by their fire-sides. In fact its sole remaining virtue seems to lie in its ability to divert the mind of the listeners from the given business on hand, and to impart to minds, either dulled by inaction or overstrung by a war, deliberately planned to react on the nerves and morale of whole peoples, a sense of tranquillity or positive pleasure.

News. But far more important are the more utilitarian aspects of broadcasting, the news service, propaganda, and military communications. The importance of keeping the public informed of the essential facts (or not !) of important events as accurately (or not!) and as immediately as possible, is obvious ; and Broadcasting is plainly the quickest method. Consequently all kinds of news from various agencies all over the world pour into the central news bureau of the principal Broadcasting systems. Engaged there are a number of linguistic experts, constantly listening to the hundreds of polyglot broadcasts that are incessantly on the air. They classify them, edit them, revise them and reduce them to presentable form, and pass them out to the eager public of their respective countries. Hence of course, the frequency with which we hear, during readings of the news bulletins, such phrases as " An urgent message has just now been handed in...........".

Propaganda. The *Laudator temporis acti* who complains that Radio started the War and is keeping it going, is not very far wrong. This does not mean that Mr Neville Chamberlain declared war through a microphone ; but it is maintainable that but for the amount of propaganda poured into the ears of the world, the war might never have started. Long before the war started GERMANY realised that an excuse would have to be provided for her nefarious projects, even if it were of the sort that Herr Wolf gave to the poor lamb in Æsop's Fable. So she began haranguing all the nations in all their languages on a carefully thought-out programme. Facts were taken out of their true setting ; extracts from speeches made years ago were carefully prised out of their context and presented to the public with startling embroideries. Special experts in mendacity were chosen to put these things across, and the combined effect of all this over a number of years, became apparent—after the War started ! Small nations and big, impregnated with and debilitated by this propaganda, allowed

themselves to be felled up one by one in a manner painfully reminiscent of the behaviour of film histrios knocked out one after the other by a screen comedian! No one seemed to counter the propaganda which threatened, which pleaded and which promised with such ingenuity that the impression of invincibility of the German "Wehrmacht" has been almost impregnable until the recent show-down in RUSSIA.

In ENGLAND, this scientific and ubiquitous misrepresentation of facts was looked down upon as something mean and unfair, as indeed it obviously is. It was not till it was realised that such propaganda was having important effects *merely because nobody contradicted what was being said*, that counter measures were taken. The B. B. C. then instituted news, and other services, in Arabic and other languages in an attempt to counter Axis propaganda, but being a private corporation it was heavily handicapped in a fight against an opponent subsidised and controlled by the State itself, an opponent who stuck at nothing, however contemptible, so long as it has a chance of working. No, it was by deeds and not by words, by the pluck of the public of GREAT BRITAIN and the magnificent work of the Royal Air Force and the Royal Navy, that the lie direct was given to German propaganda. From then on, the steady persistence of the B. B. C. in publishing only proven facts, and those in a gentlemanly way, has largely succeeded in nullifying German efforts at terrorising and hypnotising.

But other nations have not been so fortunate. The fall of FRANCE was in a large measure due to the dramatic intensity of the messages that were given in German communiqués. "The German Army has conquered a division of tanks here — has shattered a fortification there—entered a principal town somewhere else" and so on. The effect on the *morale* of an already discouraged, nervous and politically-unstable populace may well be imagined. HOLLAND, RUMANIA, and even ITALY, GERMANY's ally have shown themselves specially amenable to propaganda by radio.

RUSSIA, on the other hand, seems to be a much harder nut to crack. Every German-manufactured announcement of victories, most of which were never even on the horizon, was effectively countered; at any rate they have apparently produced no effect whatever on the Russians, who continued to do their work steadily and without panic. Once more with a nation that relies more on deeds than on words the propaganda

arm of the Radio becomes blunted and unreliable unless it is mainly truthful and backed up by confirmatory action. So, too, the pounding of German towns by the Royal Air Force, reasoned deductions from them, and the fulfilment of long-term published policies of similar import, is much more forceful and effective among the inhabitants of GERMANY than extracts from Mr. Ramsay Macdonald's speeches in 1915 or 1918, even though Lord Haw Haw read them with relish in his allegedly attractive manner and tone. When Mr. P. G. Wodehouse—that other renegade—does it, he surely creates in himself a character even more comical than his own Bertie Wooster or Stanley Featherstonehaugh Ukridge. But perhaps the Germans—those humourless people—do not at all see it in this light!

Communications. Communications are the very breath of War. From the Admiralty to Fleets, from the Admiral to the units of his command, from the airport commander to the bomber squadrons, from the squadron leaders to the pilot officer, from generals to tanks, artillery and armoured vehicles, messages have to be constantly delivered. Nowadays despatch-riders need not brave the dangers of shell torn country nor miles of field-telephone wire be laid; Radio waves skip merrily along through the ether and carry the messages in the twinkling of an eye, shells or no shells. In the great training schools of the Royal Corps of Signals, every service now has its quota of Radio-men, and equipment and maintenance staff. One may be tempted to ask how these messages are kept secret, the answer is what is known to many as scrambled telephony. By this means secrecy can be much more effectively controlled than by the keeping of elaborate codes, but I fear I have no time to go into the technical details here.

It does not require therefore any very great imagination to see how important a place Radio holds in the war-time. Hence the thousands of men being trained in CATTERICK, and other English depôts, by the Royal Corps of Signals. The Royal Army Ordnance Corps again have a separate department exclusively for the maintenance and repair of wireless apparatus, and train their own men fully in wireless technique, and with the rest of the Empire, INDIA is fast developing this service. A member in the Signal Command in each of the Services, is moreover as much a front line fighting man as the gunner and infantry-man, whose eyes and ears he is. Each man has undergone stiff medical

and psychological tests before entering the Service. He has been trained in sending and receiving coded Morse at a very rapid rate, in designing wireless circuits, in carrying out repairs to every type of wireless set, in ordinary flag signalling and in the mathematical intricacies of direction-finding. Incidentally, he has even to learn to be a machine gunner, and an efficient one at that, so that he may be able at a pinch to take a combatant's place. His message, while actually in the field are received at Field Head-quarters, decoded, the position of the planes and tanks are marked on a gigantic map of the field, and the officer conducting field operations is able to direct the action as though he were present on the battle field.

Training of Recruits. There are other ways in which Radio makes itself highly useful in war-time. For instance, it is used to train recruits on the three services, in the Science of Gunnery in a thorough and efficient manner. No amount of theory or even of musketry with fixed targets will make gunners or infantrymen proficient in shooting at such quick moving targets as are met with in modern warfare The amount of training necessary for a gunner to acquire the quickness of eye and thought and co-ordination of observation, calculation and action, is difficult to provide during peace time. Only if actual war conditions can be reproduced and recruits be made to cope with them, can the training be swift and efficient.

Now, one obviously cannot allow recruits to practice on tanks or aeroplanes or ships actually manned by men, and here Radio comes to the rescue in a miraculous fashion. For some time now it has been possible to direct planes and ships entirely by means of a stationary transmitter, and a monitor. The moving ship, plane or tank contains the reciprocal equipment, and can thus be driven and manoeuvred purely through the stationary monitor. There is no danger to life, and the Radio proves in fact to be better at answering controls, and to be able to exemplify many turns and manoeuvres, which mere men can hardly be expected to make. After the necessary lessons in theory, recruits are faced with the targets which they will be expected to face in the field, and given a target, which is so minutely amenable that it can even duck to avoid a bullet, you can well imagine that the training of gunnery recruits is enormously facilitated.

Radio Location. "Radio Location" is a science very much in the public eye just now. For obvious reasons, full details cannot be disclosed, but the results are really astonishing. Even before the sound detectors, which are themselves Radio locators, can detect the coming of hostile aircraft, this new apparatus can apparently describe the position, elevation, direction and speed of the approaching aircraft.! Imagine the assistance such accurate information is to fighter commands, anti-aircraft crews, and other air defence personnel, who can now receive their orders in plenty of time to give the visitors the warmest of welcomes.

There are certain beneficial properties of Radio which have had to be curtailed during War. Such are the Radio Beacons, which played a great part in guiding planes to the airports, and made the once-dangerous blind landings far safer; even fogs were hardly an obstacle to a night flyer who could rely on his direction-finding apparatus. But War has changed all this. Any such guiding Beacon will guide hostile aircraft too, and even the directional properties of an ordinary transmitting station would prove as beneficial to a night raider as a search light. This was one of the reasons why German stations have closed down whenever there was an R. A. F. raid on. Such direction finding and blind landing gear are of course, not entirely out of use They are used for instance to guide rescue ships to wrecks, and even to guide aeroplanes themselves, but only when the presence of hostile aircraft is unlikely.

Jamming. On the other hand one of Radio's most annoying possibilities is exploited to the full in War conditions. I refer to the practice of 'Jamming' other broadcasts. Field orders, while being transmitted to the individual units can be effectively jammed and rendered unintelligible, and while it is no easy matter to cut into foreign messages while actually on the air, RUSSIA appears to be successfully doing it to German news bulletins, to judge by the constant interruptions recently experienced by the Deutschlansender station. But generally speaking this is a game that two can play at, and the fear of reprisals seems to be keeping the practice comparatively infrequent.

Effects of War on Radio. Having commented on the influence which Radio has on War, let us hazard a few guesses as to the probable effects of War on Radio. War has

certainly played havoc with the normal activities of broadcasting. Television, for instance which was being rapidly popularised, and had even reached the colour-television-broadcast stage had to be abruptly suspended. Research is doubtless going on, but broadcasting conditions cannot be reproduced, and this is a great handicap to an important development. Again, the non-combatant public is heavily penalised, for the normal listener has to lose may hours of entertainment which are now given over to special war-time subjects. Against this is the useful organisation by which men in the Services can exchange messages, *by microphone* with their dear ones, and evacuated children are able to hear their parents' voices over vast distances, and *vice versa.* From the commercial point of view again, Radio manufacturers have nothing to complain about, for their sales have soared and are soaring, until they are literally unable to meet the demand.

Again on the credit side, War has to be expected to exert two good influences on Radio communications, one on the technical aspect, and the other from the international point of view, for it is inevitable that many technical perfections carried out during war-time will be incorporated in the peace-time technique of broadcasting. Certainly, the last war contributed a good deal towards improving wireless technique, and what is more it thoroughly trained a large number of men in wireless science. The result was that after the war wireless communications received a tremendous boost, and what was a necessary perquisite of experts became a mass amenity.

The other probable influence is not so obvious. After the last war was over there was an attempt to propagate notions of permanent peace through the ether. The League of Nations had its own transmitter, with which it hoped to promote world peace by appropriate broadcasts. Unfortunately the evil genius of certain men prevailed; wireless was used to inculcate aggressive and racial notions; and this war was certainly made inevitable by their methods. My point is that neither the League, nor anybody else, carried on any real and forceful propaganda for peace, and in these days of swift communications not even peace can be successfully promoted without consistent and tireless propaganda. There seems no reason why suitable steps should not be taken after the war to make the Radio as a powerful instrument of peace, as it has been found to be an efficient engine of war. Perhaps, for instance aggressive propaganda could be punished

by 'jamming' or other suitable penalty, just as aggressive actions were to be punished by sanctions. I throw in this closing suggestion with all humility to those great ones in whose hands will lie the world's destiny, after this hideous struggle is over.

WHY WE FIGHT.

It is an established fact that Society came into being to make life possible, and continues to make life good. Dictatorship is a malignant tumour of a broken down economy, even as democracy is the ultimate guarantee for the creative existence of man's expanding universe.

In the heart of Europe there dwells a warped and twisted people, who because they delight in regimentation, are insensible to suffering, and are stunted children with regard to political ideas, are a menace to the world. In 1939 the rest of Europe was confronted with a nation which had created the most formidable war machine ever known, and was inflamed and exalted by a mystical faith in its own transcendent destiny. It was a bastard faith, but possessed the dynamic drive of the super-normal. **Opposed to that flaming barbaric belief was the defensive love of the hearth and home, and a pale negative adherence to the principles of international co-operation.** It was not enough. The well-armed tribe struck down its victims ruthlessly one by one. Behind the jargon of phrases of Axis propaganda—"the decadence of the pluto-democracies"—and the like, there is this germ of truth.

Europe, and indeed the non-Axis world, was a veritable garden awaiting the armed bandit.

The democracies were not "decadent." That was Hitler's cardinal mistake, but they were caught in the weakest period in their history. They had neglected the weapon of war, before they had developed sufficient political sagacity to ensure (by standing together) the peaceful world which they envisaged. **Sufficiently advanced to discard aggressive nationalism, they had failed to evolve effective internationalism, that is to say, to reach the spiritual level of identifying the neighbour's interests and security with one's own.** Caught half-way between the old system and the new, they lacked the strength of either. It was the bandit's opportunity and he took it.

To fight for hearth and home evokes the fiercest spirit in any healthy people. It saved the British in the hour of their supreme peril by galvanising them into making a superb effort; it is saving the people of the Soviet Union in the same

way, and it is bracing the enslaved peoples of Europe to heroic resistance. But that spirit is defensive. Something more is needed—a positive dynamic faith, as positive and dynamic in its own way as is the lustful fanaticism of the Nazis in theirs.

Within the world group headed by the British Commonwealth, the United States, and the Soviet Union there is all the man-power necessary, and the metal "to finish the job." If during this third year of war the fire of crusade possesses the hearts and minds of every member nation of the group, the rest will follow. **The factories of the U. S. and the British Commonwealth will then swing up to the level of maximum output, and a sense of comradeship will come into being which will induce such a sense of corporate responsibility that whether the immediate danger spot at any given time be Moscow, London, Cairo, Chungking, Singapore, the Atlantic or the frontier of India, it will all be one.**

Nothing less than that can bring us decisive victory.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

25—9—41 to 1—10—41.

The Battle of the Crimea.—The Germans have started a fresh *blitz* in the Crimea by landing large forces by air at the Isthmus of Perekop and attacking road and rail communications. An advance of 7 miles is claimed.

The Ukraine.—In the UKRAINE the enemy has taken POLTOVA, 85 miles south-west of KHARKOV, an industrial centre, where Budenny is reforming his defence. POLTOVA stands at the head of the Donetz basin.

Odessa continues to be impregnable. The two visits (Aug. 23 and Sep. 16) which general Antonescu paid to this front in the vain hope of entering the city victoriously after storming have proved inauspicious. On both the occasions the enemy was driven back with enormous losses. Mass attacks having proved futile, artillery bombardment and aerial attacks have now been substituted.

In the **Central Sector** Timoshenko retains the initiative. GOMEL is in the news again, and a place 'D' near it has been recaptured.

At **Leningrad** the battle is one of continuous movement, now hampered greatly by the 'ubiquitous mud'. Here the R. A. F. has already scored its first victory of 12 to one over the *Luftwaffe*. The second British Squadron which has now joined has in cooperation with Russian fighters also bagged 26 enemy planes in 2 days, with the loss of one British and one Russian plane. The Soviet battleships *Mart* and *Octobre Revolution* defend the city's coastal front. The enemy has been ousted from several villages near the city. According to the testimony of the war correspondent of the *Berliner Borse Zeitung* the difficulties encountered before LENINGRAD by the enemy are 'indescribable'; of which one is the omnipresence of mines in rivers, houses, and schools, under carpets, in stoves, and behind cupboards.

Murmansk.—In spite of the Finnish claim to have taken KANDALAKSHA and captured PETROZAVODSK, the capital of Soviet KARELIA, the threat to MURMANSK is not serious. Judging by the silence of Nazi Communiqués it is even possible to conceive an enemy set back here.

Aid to Russia.—The 'Tanks for Russia' week has proved a great success, resulting in 20% more production than in the previous week, which was by itself an all-out record week out of a period of 3 months (July-August-September) in which more tanks were built than in the whole of last year. It is now also apparent that the tank-week is more than a flash in the pan, for it has now been followed up by the 'Help-to-Russia-to-Follow' slogan. A national appeal for continuance of aid has been launched by the British Council of Labour, and as a gesture of comradeship a fund in aid has been started jointly by the Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party. There is now no doubt that the flow of munitions and materials will continue unabated, the only impediments being the limitations imposed by geography, shipping and the routes.

In acknowledging in a broadcast of the 27th BRITAIN'S magnificent aid during the Tank-Week, M. Maisky, the Russian Ambassador in LONDON, explained the reason for RUSSIA'S present shortage in tanks by pointing out how it was primarily due to the enormous front of 2,000 miles over which the battle was being fought. In this terrific struggle the Russian loss, though not so enormous as the German was still serious, and it was further augmented by the sacrifice of

plants under the 'scorched earth' mandate, and the transfer of machinery to other centres where it took time to re-instal them. Thus the normal output though ordinarily sufficient had proved inadequate.

The Three-Power Conference.—The British and American Missions appointed to investigate the problems of aid to RUSSIA arrived in Moscow on September 23rd, headed respectively by Lord Beaverbrook and Mr. Averell Harriman, and met Russian representatives in conference on the 29th under the presidency of M. Molotov. Six committees to go into questions relating to the army, navy and air force, transport, medical supplies and raw materials were constituted. The occasion was unique owing to the presence of non-belligerent AMERICA at the conference—practically a War Council. It is also significant that no committee was appointed for food-supplies. The conference, which was scheduled to carry on for a week, concluded its labours in about a couple of days (Sep. 29—Oct. 1) in advance: time is now a vital factor. The decision has been taken to give the Soviet Union 'practically every requirement'.

Frustration.—In spite of the vaunted 'victories', there are signs betraying the enemy's growing weakness and exhaustion. Rumours of incessant appeals for reinforcements from ITALY, RUMANIA, HUNGARY, SLOVAKIA and BULGARIA are persistent. ITALY is said to demur, having her own job to do in LIBYA and elsewhere. King Boris fears opposition from his own unwilling army and his indignant peasantry. From neutral testimony, such as that of Mr. Ralph Ingersoll the editor of the American R. M., there is no sign of any Russian panic, much less of collapse. But perhaps the best proof of Nazi frustration is the German lying propaganda which if anything is now on the increase. The earlier lies will be remembered such as that MURMANSK had fallen (July 2), the road to Moscow was open (July 12); and the eastern campaign would be over by August 15 (July 15). The latest examples are that LENINGRAD would fall in a couple of days, and that the Russian loss at KIEV amounted to 350,000 and later to a million—a 'triplication' as Mr. Lozovsky says of the earlier lie.

A Warning.—BRITAIN has warned FINLAND that she will forfeit all British sympathy and be treated now and hereafter as a foe, if she continues her attack on purely Russian territory. Anxious as FINLAND is to be in BRITAIN's good books, she is yet powerless to free

herself from the enemy's tentacles. She has not only been bribed with prospects of territorial gains at the expense of RUSSIA, but is subjected to great economic pressure by GERMANY, who in normal times is the best customer for her exports.

Wavell's Lightning Tour.—General Wavell has just returned to INDIA after a lightning tour in which he visited LONDON, EGYPT, BAGDAD and TEHERAN, and held consultations with the military chiefs and authorities on various questions, including the defence of the MIDDLE EAST, the development of communications in PERSIA and the protection of the Iranian oil-wells.

Czechoslovakia.—In spite of cajolery backed by threats CZECHOSLOVAKIA has preferred the path of resistance, sabotage and even open revolt to subservience to Hitler's 'New Order'. Adopting the sign of the tortoise, the 'V' symbol for 'Go Slow', production has been slowed down from '60% to 40%'. The munition works at VLASIN and the armament works at SKODA have suffered heavily by sabotage, not to speak of other damage done to innumerable oil-depots, ammunition dumps, military trains and Railway centres. BARON Von Neurath the 'Protector' has been recalled for reasons of 'health', and has probably been, according to reports from MOSCOW, also 'arrested'. Reinhard Heydrich, the second Gestapo Chief, hated and feared and nicknamed 'Butcher', 'Murderer in-Chief' and the 'hangman of EUROPE' for his ruthlessness has taken his place. A state of emergency has been proclaimed in 9 districts, and 59 persons, including 2 former army chiefs, have been sentenced to death by court-martial and shot. 256 persons have been delivered to the Gestapo. General Elias, the Premier is reported to have been sentenced to death for 'high treason'. It is also rumoured that President Hacha himself, though considered loyal, may be dismissed, and the 'Protectorate' be dissolved, and converted into a province of the Reich. This is the latest illustration of the working of the 'New Order'. Other instances follow :—

1. In **Croatia**, the puppet 'King' appointed by ITALY to rule over the puppet 'Kingdom' of CROATIA has not yet dared to show his head in the Capital (ZAGREB) much less to mount the throne.

2. In **Greece** internal resistance is growing in proportion to German and Italian oppression. 14 enemy divisions are kept here to maintain 'order'.

3. A movement to free **Hungary** has been started by Hungarian patriots, under the leadership of Count Michael Karolyi the ex-Minister.

4. Great unrest prevails in LUXEMBURG, following on the arrest of its Archbishop.

5. In **Yugo-slavia**, the guerillas have destroyed 200 bridges, blown up 400 ammunition and provision dumps, derailed 17 trains and killed 10,000 Fascists.

6. In **Bulgaria**, the cost of living has risen by 40% ; revolts are in progress in several districts in protest against the German attempt to draw the country into the War. Political assassination is ripe, and GERMANY is strengthening her control through concentration camps and by military occupation.

The Neutrality Act.—American opinion, which has been veering round of late, has now begun to recognise the futility of the Navigation Act. In fact, the Act was actually transcended, and violated also, in spirit, as well as in letter, when President Roosevelt gave the order 'to shoot on sight'. As Mr. Roy Woodruff of the House of Representatives has remarked, the Act is already dead as the dodo. A resolution to repeal the Act has been introduced in the Senate by Mr. Kenneth Mc Keller. President Roosevelt may soon ask the Congress to modify the Act so as to permit the arming of merchantmen, though the UNITED STATES vessels would still be confined to 'defence waters'.

These are indications of AMERICA's drift towards War. Col. Frank Knox, true to his name is frank enough in this particular. The price of peace at any price, he says, is incalculable. The U. S. stands to-day on the threshold of 'World War No. 2.' From the older continent, General Smuts chimes in saying, "the time is very near when AMERICA will be in this War." But whether the U. S. joins in the actual fight or not, and whether such entry would be useful or not at the present juncture, when arms and not men would seem to be required, one thing, as Mr. Churchill in his latest speech has shown, is certain "We are no longer alone—Whether we look to the east or to the west we are no longer alone. Whether we look at the devoted battle-line of the Russian armies or to the majestic momentum of the U. S. resolve and action, we may derive comfort and good cheer".

AIR ATTACKS.—The R. A. F. has been busy during the week heavily attacking FRANKFURT, STETTIN and HAMBURG in GERMANY, CALAIS and DUNKIRK in occupied territory, GENOA and TURIN in ITALY and BENGHAZI and TRIPOLI in N. AFRICA. In a statement made on October 1st Sir Archibald Sinclair, Secretary of State for war announced that the German losses from February 1 amounted to 658 planes against 428 British, and in its offensive sweeps the R. A. F. was not only pinning down large forces of the best German fighters in the west while they were badly wanted in the east, but also that the British Bomber Command was now beginning 'to blaze the trail to victory.' He added that the indiscriminate bombing of peaceful towns in BRITAIN, renewed for the first time again on September 30, may be a prelude to a recrudescence of German aerial offensive on BRITAIN in the ensuing winter.

At sea.—13 Italian destroyers which attempted to obstruct the passage of a British convoy in the Central Mediterranean on September 27 have been destroyed, and the Italian fleet which appeared in the neighbourhood turned tail as soon as the British Navy took note of it. Mr. Churchill told the House of Commons on Tuesday amid cheers that the British sea losses in July, August and September were only a *third* of those in April, May and June; while the 'slaughter' of enemy shipping in the latter quarter had risen by half as much again as in the earlier quarter.

MISCELLANEOUS.

1. **Turkey.**—There has presumably been a hitch in GERMANY's trade talks with TURKEY though conducted by Dr. Clodius, the Nazi ace trade negotiator. Von Papen has been called in to assist. The Turks are reported to have refused to sell any chromium, an important war material which GERMANY badly needs. British and American aircraft are now being supplied to TURKEY.

2. **Switzerland** having concluded a commerical agreement with GERMANY has been included in the British blockade, excluding however food and fodder, which may be absolutely necessary for domestic consumption.

3. **Greece.**—BRITAIN has sent 50,000 tons of food, medicine and clothing to GREECE.

4. **Far East.**—The HUNAN front in CHINA is now the scene of fierce fighting. The Japanese who claimed on Saturday last to have taken CHANG SHA, the capital of the province, withdrew on Wednesday under the pretext that the object of their present campaign had been fulfilled. The truth however seems to be that the withdrawal was necessitated by some 50,000 of their troops having been trapped and surrounded to the north of CHANG SHA.

5. **The Tripartite Pact.**—The first anniversary of the Pact was celebrated during the week by the Axis Powers by an exchange of greetings.

6. **Britain's Daily Expenditure.**—In a statement made by Sir Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer in the House of Commons on September 30, it was revealed that the daily expenditure of BRITAIN now amounted to £ 13 millions.

SIDE LIGHTS.

A TRIBUTE AND AN EXAMPLE. It is interesting to compare the war reactions of various places one happens to visit. A friend of mine recently told me that the only two places in which the importance of the war seemed to be realised to the full were BOMBAY and SIMLA. I don't think he can have been to MADRAS. While I was there we had a blackout, and I have seen lots of A. R. P. units at practice, but what most amazed me was the amount of war work the women are doing. Really, I take off my hat to these MADRAS ladies, with their work-parties, packing depôts, nursing classes, ambulance-driving, and secretarial labours. It is no joke doing six or seven hours regular work a day in addition to looking after a house, specially in a MADRAS September; and the fact that a great many of them are already dispensing with what I thought indispensable in INDIA, namely the afternoon rest, increases both my admiration for them and my feeling that PUDUKKOTTAI ladies can hardly yet have realised what a tremendous demand there is for every kind of knitted and sewn "comfort", and hospital appurtenance. I am sure a visit to MADRAS would inspire them to fresh effort in the way of working 'bees'—so irresistible is the spirit of duty and self-sacrifice when one sees it in full swing.

DILEMMA. Whether or not the British Government are being placed in a dilemma by Mr. Maisky's repeated insistence on the need for supplies to RUSSIA may be open to question. What is now certain is that as with the proverbial bull, so with this dilemma, we have taken it by the horns. By the middle of September, we had already met our Allies requests to the following tune :—

(i) One third of the total requirements originally asked for.

(ii) The range of supplies has included—Rubber, boots, wool, woollen cloth, hides, lead and jute—all in large quantities—also shellac, cobalt, and industrial diamonds.

(iii) At the beginning of the war, we gave RUSSIA a credit of ten million pounds. By September 1st, the value of the stuff we had sent her was already £ 15,000,000, so by now this figure must have been largely exceeded, especially when Beaverbrook's Tanks Week (September 21–28) is remembered.

(iv) Mr. A. V. Alexander, on September 14, announced also, that " There are many ways in which naval help can be, *and is being*, given to RUSSIA."

Provided winter comes before the Germans have inflicted any irreparable damage on the Russian armies themselves, and this rate of supply can be kept up and increased without serious detriment to our own safety, the problem facing Hitler in his spring campaign against the Soviet will look an even less attractive proposition than it did in June this year.

A cognate matter for satisfaction is BRITAIN'S ability to convey substantial aid over vast distances by reason of her command over world communications. If and when the Japs dive into the war (?), what will GERMANY be able to send them by way of material help ? The answer is, NOTHING !

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THE MONTREUX CONVENTION. This instrument is a fairly common topic these days, particularly since the disclosure of the latest German subterfuge about passing Italian ships of war through the Dardanelles under the Bulgarian flag.

One of the clauses of the Convention expressly states that, in time of war, belligerent war vessels cannot pass through the Straits, except to execute obligations under the League Covenant, or render assistance to a victim of aggression in virtue of a treaty of mutual assistance "binding Turkey" and registered with the League.

Now BULGARIA is not at war with RUSSIA (or is she, by the time of going to press ?!) but she is undoubtedly belligerent. GREECE and YUGOSLAVIA, both Allies of the British, are able to vouch for that! Even if King Boris fears popular reactions in his kingdom too much to sign on Hitler's dotted line, it seems most unlikely that TURKEY will concede the legality of the German device.

Incidentally, this discreditable German attempt to pass a discredited Axis fleet into the Black Sea, throws light on the seriousness with which they regard the efficiency of the Russian fleet, and the defences of SEBASTOPOL.

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THE NOT-SO-EXPERT EXPERT. A German gentleman of the name of Clodius has acquired considerable industrial and political prominence as an international economic expert. But he is in trouble, and Hitler has rather a short way with blunted tools.

A Turco-German Trade Agreement expired in August. TURKEY did not show enough anxiety about renewing it, so the redoubtable Dr. Clodius went to ANKARA. On his arrival on Sep. 9th the first thing he was apprised of was the arrival of the following British consignments at the Turkish port of MERSIN :—

9,000	tons of Australian flour ;
6,000	metres of steel cable ;
25	million liras worth of Turkish currency made in England.
and 45,000	tons of miscellaneous British goods.

To the reproaches of the Wilhelmstrasse, the Turks merely replied that while they knew Dr. Clodius had come to renew a trade agreement, they were sure the Germans would understand that TURKEY must trade wherever she could do so on satisfactory terms, and that if German propaganda to the effect that GERMANY only, and not GREAT BRITAIN with her 12,000 miles of sea-lanes, could 'deliver the goods' had proved wrong in the event, the Turks themselves were surely not to be blamed.

This submission was two-edged. Not only had BRITAIN maintained a steady and increasing trade with TURKEY, since the U. K. Commercial Corporation made their big deal over TURKEY'S whole exportable surplus of figs and sultanas, but the Germans had not been able to produce the five million pounds that they already owed TURKEY, and could only proffer as a substitute Greek tobacco and olive oil. Now Greek tobacco and olive oil are not foreign exchange, a commodity which TURKEY gravely needs, and which BRITAIN only can supply.

Hence Dr. Clodius's headache, and the verdict of the American commentator, Agronsky, that a mere clearing arrangement with TURKEY is the utmost that Hitler's 'Expert' can now hope for.

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AFGHANISTAN. We are not so vulnerable down here to circumstantial rumours from this country as are those who live on the Frontier and the Punjab. The most interesting, not to say, impossible stories about what was happening or going to happen in AFGHANISTAN were our constant pabulum when my work was up in the north, the principal purveyors to the bazaars (whence we assimilated them) being the Pathan peddlers, horse-copers, wool-dealers and lorry-drivers. Just now some papers have been taking notice of a new crop of stories relating to the hostile intentions of the British Government in regard to AFGHANISTAN. We are alleged to be insisting on facilities for the passage of troops and so on, to which end we are exerting strong diplomatic pressure.

It is almost needless to say that there is not a word of truth in these *canards.* Our relations with AFGHANISTAN are extremely friendly, and even though wartime conditions in INDIA necessarily have reactions on conditions in AFGHANISTAN, the volume of Indian trade with that country continues to grow, and the greatest care is taken to see that she does not unduly suffer from the strain imposed by world conditions.

The real trouble, of course, is that AFGHANISTAN relied too largely on trade with GERMANY and JAPAN for her internal economy not to have suffered. Our action in IRAN has necessarily closed the land route to Axis countries, while the recent freezing order against JAPAN will have the same effect on that country's overseas trade with AFGHANISTAN, as on its trade with INDIA. To replace these sources of normal peacetime supplies, INDIA has been considerably increasing her trade with AFGHANISTAN, and every effort is being made to take the timber, spices, fruits, skins, carpets and wool that the latter can supply, against increasing quantities of cotton piecegoods, silk, leather, hardware and cutlery for which AFGHANISTAN used to rely on the outside world.

BRITISH and RUSSIAN Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied Territories.

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
22—9—41. (Monday.)				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
DAY :—				
	An enemy supply ship off the coast of NORWAY.	The ship hit.	No loss.	No loss.
NIGHT :—				
	The docks at BOULOGNE.	Damaged.	No loss.	...
	ITALIAN AFRICA.			
	The harbour at BENGHAZI ...	...	...	...
	Military barracks and buildings at TRIPOLI.	...	...	...
	Enemy merchant ships in the Central MEDITERRANEAN.	2 ships sunk and 2 more ships damaged.	...	...
	Enemy positions near GONDAR ...	...	1 plane.	...
	(By Russian planes).			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole battle area.	...	25 planes.	75 planes.
23—9—41. (Tuesday).				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	No information about day and night operations.			
	ITALIAN AFRICA.			
	The harbour and shipping at BENGHAZI and TRIPOLI.	Ships hit and damaged.	...	...
	Buildings near BARDIA.	Fires started.	...	...
	A large petrol dump at BARDIA.	Set on fire.	...	...
	Reconnaissance over the Frontier area North AFRICAN coast and Central MEDITERRANEAN.	...	5 planes and 2 pilots safe.	...

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
23—9—41. (Tuesday)—*cont.*				
	(By Russian planes.)			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes and enemy positions along the whole battle area.	...	36 planes.	138 planes.
24—9—41. (Wednesday.)				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	No information.			
	ITALIAN AFRICA.			
	A petrol tank vehicle and other traffic on the BENGHAZI road between MISURATA and SIRTE.	Petrol vehicle burnt out and many other vehicles damaged.	...	...
	The harbours at TRIPOLI and BENGHAZI.	...	...	...
	Air combat over the IONIAN SEA ...	...	...	1 plane.
	(By Russian planes).			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	German tanks, armoured cars, air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole fighting area.	...	29 planes.	118 planes.
25—9—41. (Thursday.)				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	No information.			
	ITALIAN AFRICA.			
	The harbour, barrack blocks and the power station at TRIPOLI.	Damaged.	...	...
	The harbour and shipping at BENGHAZI.	Ships hit.	...	...
	Motor transport and aircraft on the ground between TRIPOLI and the TUNISIAN frontier.	Motor vehicles damaged.	...	...
	Merchantmen off TRIPOLI ...	Ships hit.	No loss.	...

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
25—9—41.	(Thursday)—*cont.*			
	ITALIAN AFRICA—*cont.*			
	A dump and a Camp near a landing ground at GAMBUT.	Blown up.	...	...
	Enemy troops in DESBARECH area.	...	No loss.	...
	SICILY.			
	The harbour at PALERMO.	Fires started.	...	...
	(By Russian Planes).			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	German troop positions, air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole battle area	...	19 planes.	44 planes.
26—9—41.	(Friday.)			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
NIGHT :—				
	Military and Industrial objectives at COLOGNE and elesewhere in Western GERMANY.	Damaged.	...	...
	The docks at CALAIS and DUNKIRK.	Straddled.	1 bomber.	...
	SARDINIA.			
	Bases and aerodromes at ELMAS.	Many sea planes damaged.	...	...
	A hangar and a wireless station at the Marsala aerodrome.	...	...	...
	An electrical plant at PORTO EMPE DOCLE.	Damaged.	...	...
	SICILY.			
	The harbour at PALERMO AGRIGENTO.	Fires started	...	...
	GULF OF TARANTO.			
	A merchant vessel in the gulf.	Set on fire.	...	...

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
26—9—41.	(Friday.)—*cont.*			
	ITALIAN AFRICA.			
	An ammuntion dump and the harbour at BARDIA. **Transport** at MERSA LUKK ...	...	5 planes.	...
	(By Russian planes).			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats, aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole battle area.	...	31 planes.	98 planes.
27—9—41.	**(Saturday.)**			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	MORNING :—			
	Offensive patrol over the ENGLISH CHANNEL.	...	1 plane.	...
	AFTERNOON :—			
	The railway centre at AMIENS ... **The railway Junction** near LA BASSEE.	...	13 fighters; 3 pilots safe.	21 fighters.
	RHODES.			
	Harbour installations and works at RHODES.	...	...	1 plane.
	(By Russian planes).			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aero-dromes over the entire battle area.	...	28 planes.	150 planes.
28—9—41.	**(Sunday.)**			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	DAY :—			
	A supply train, two petrol wagons, aircraft on the ground, troops, a machine-gun post and an anti-aircraft gun in occupied FRANCE.	...	No loss.	...
	NIGHT :—			
	Targets in Western GERMANY including FRANKFURT.	...	5 planes.	...
	An oil depot and refineries at ST. NAZAIRE.	Set on fire	2 planes.	...

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
28—9—41. (Sunday.)—*cont.*				
	ITALY.			
	Objectives at GENOA, TURIN and elsewhere.	Fires started.	...	...
	ITALIAN AFRICA.			
	Merchant vessels in the harbour and aircraft on the aerodromes at BARDIA.	Many aircraft damaged.	3 planes.	...
	Petrol dumps at BARDIA ...	Set on fire.		
	SICILY.			
DAY :—				
	The aerodrome and the sea-plane base at PALERMO.	...	...	9 planes damaged.
NIGHT :—				
	Merchant vessels in the harbour and a power station at PALERMO.	Ships hit.	...	...
	(By Russian planes).			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats, aircraft on the aerodromes and enemy positions along the whole battle field.	...	27 planes.	65 planes.

ENEMY Air Raids over BRITAIN, BRITISH Territories and RUSSIA.

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Enemy aircraft losses.	British and Russian air losses.
23—9—41. (Tuesday).				
	BRITAIN.			
	Several points on the coastal areas of South-west ENGLAND and South WALES.	Slight damage and a small number of casualties.	...	...

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombard-ment.	Enemy air-craft losses.	British and Russian air losses.
23—9—41.	**(Tuesday)**—*cont.*			
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow	... No damage.	...	...
	Leningrad	... ...	...	...
24—9—41.	**(Wednesday.)**			
	BRITAIN.			
	No information available.			
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow and **Leningrad**	... ...	...	...
25—9—41.	**(Thursday.)**			
	BRITAIN.			
NIGHT:—	**A point** near the coast of East ANGLIA.	...	...	...
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow and **Leningrad**	... ...	...	...
26—9—41.	**(Friday).**			
	BRITAIN.			
	One place in East ANGLIA	... Slight damage.	...	...
	AFRICA.			
	Tobruk	... No damage.	...	...
	RUSSIA.			
	Leningrad	... ...	...	...
27—9—41.	**(Saturday).**			
	BRITAIN.			
	A few points in East ENGLAND	... No damage.	...	...
	RUSSIA.			
	Leningrad and **Moscow**	... ...	2 planes.	...
	MEDITERRANEAN.			
	A British Convoy supported by War ships in the Central MEDITERRANEAN.	1 ship damaged.	13 planes.	No. loss.

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Enemy aircraft losses.	British and Russian air losses.
28—9—41. (Sunday.)				
	BRITAIN.			
NIGHT :—				
	Two places in ENGLAND and the coast of South WALES.	...	...	...
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow ...	...	2 bombers.	...
29—9—41. (Monday.)				
	BRITAIN.			
NIGHT :—				
	Eastern coastal areas of ENGLAND ... **A town** in North-east SCOTLAND ...	Slight damage and a few casualties.	...	...
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow and **Leningrad** ...	...	...	...

HOW HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.

GERMANY'S INITIAL SUCCESSES AND FINAL DEFEAT IN THE LAST WAR.

COUNTRY'S INABILITY TO STAND A LONG STRUGGLE.

HITLER, LIKE THE KAISER, HAS DEFIED HIS ADVISERS.

By

"Strategicus."

History seems to be bent on plagiarising itself. In the last war, through prolonged sacrifices, iron discipline and skill, Germany secured one brilliant victory after another only to suffer final defeat. The sequence of the present war is like the repetition of a forgotten cinema play—recurrently familiar.

The elder Moltke and Schlieffen wrote so vigorously about the unprofitableness of a long war that it

became an accepted doctrine among the staffs of all nations. It was however only Germany which concerned the German writers. Schlieffen insisted that it was impossible for his country to undertake a war based on "the strategy of exhaustion." In spite of all these warnings the Germans launched the war of 1914 with the conviction that it would be over in six months, or at most nine months.

Their confidence was founded on the preoccupation of their military theorists with the means of procuring decisive results. They had perfected their tactical training "for a battle of annihilation", and were well-justified in assuming success for their organisation by placing in the field before any opponent a vast and perfectly equipped army.

It was the same in the present war. Hitler was warned by his most faithful advisers of the dangers of a long war, but he was convinced that the Panzer Divisions with the strategic and tactical co-operation of the *Luftwaffe* could not fail to carry through the *blitzkrieg*. Fritsche became unpopular for casting doubts upon it.

The thesis was examined in detail in the semi-official *Deutcher Industrie* six months before the war began; and the verdict of this careful anonymous enquiry was against the *blitzkrieg*.

But to the Germans, subject to recurrent bouts of megalomania, unfavourable criticism is either irrelevant or an incentive, so, taking every precaution to secure victory wherever possible by guile rather than fighting, war was launched.

The detached spectator knew that war, so long prepared for and launched against nations so unready, must secure initial successes.

He knew that in any case a carefully mounted offensive must to some extent be victorious at first, and the German *blitzkrieg* machine seemed to carry everything before it.

Heroic Poland found that mere flesh and blood were not a sufficient reply to tanks and aeroplanes.

Denmark and Norway were overtaken more completely by surprisl and succumbed. The mechanica juggernaut overran Holland and Belgium and even France in six weeks. It seemed as if it would thus overrun all the free nations of the world.

Germany thought that already the war was won. The *blitzkrieg* had succeeded.

Britain had of course to be beaten. That seemed a foregone conclusion; Marshal Goering sent his *Luftwaffe* to prepare the way.

Though the event is a year old, it remains remarkable that the *Luftwaffe* was beaten so cleanly and clearly.

Germany has always depended on superiority in numbers; and in the Battle of Britain she had an ample margin. She had not only final superiority but could daily send over heavier concentrations than Britain could mobilise.

But from the outset the result was decisive; Germany faced it first with incredulity, then alarm and finally desperation.

At length, she had to admit the obvious and consoled herself with the

assurance that the *blitzkrieg* was effective for land fighting. Further success appeared to justify this revised conviction; and with certain changes in strategy she set out once more to secure a decision.

In the course of her quest she chose to attack Russia.

No critic would accuse her of cowardice. In fact in this way Germany has succeeded in living dangerously. But in attacking Russia she has been a victim of her over-confidence.

She naturally secured considerable successes. She has marched almost incredible distances and smashed her way through and round astounding obstacles. But a decision has eluded her. She has inflicted heavy losses on Russia, but only by the heaviest sacrifices; and so far she has even failed to secure the commodities—wheat, oil and minerals—she needs with growing urgency.

With much success she has concealed the increasing shortage; but when, after plundering Europe, she is found buying wheat from Iran the position is made plain.

Hard-headed soldiers who for generations have been warning Germany against the risks of becoming involved in a long war were not moved by any scruple. Clausewitz chided those who think you can fight without shedding blood, and insisted with all the conviction of Napoleon, from whom of course he learnt it, that all warfare should lead to the tactical fact of battle.

It is because Germany cannot stand a long war, because her economic fabric cannot bear the strain, that her advisers urged the politicians to avoid it.

There is another reason less palatable to German minds. It has been decisively proved that she cannot stand it. A writer in *Militar Wochenblatt* in 1919 wrote the epitaph of the last war in the following words "Our defeat has been so complete because our forces...have been overtaxed and completely exhausted by the pursuit of unattainable military and political aims."

The German mind still rejects the idea of the unattainable, and refuses to admit the military defeat of 1918.

It was evident from the beginning of the war that Germany must win all the initial successes. If this were not the case, the very foundation of Britain's hopes for victory would disappear.

War is bound to follow a curve. Germany, starting completely mobilised, would gain successes, seem to grow more powerful and then, as Britain and her allies built up their resources, the German curve of power would begin to fall and that of the Allies to rise.

In human affairs, human variations insist on disturbing all mathematical calculations. The war has only broadly followed a foreseen course.

Britain had begun to mobilise her war potential when the might of the *Luftwaffe* was defeated on the morrow of Dunkirk. But for over ten weeks now Germany has been delivering and receiving hammer blows in the east

and her strength has been steadily seeping out at the very time that Britain has been mobilising her strength undisturbed.

History is in fact a great plagiarist.

The third year of the war as the third year of the last war finds Britain and her allies growing steadily stronger as Germany becomes weaker. Hitler, like the Kaiser, has defied Germany's most trustworthy advisers, and now finds himself involved in a process to which there can be but one end.

STORIES BEHIND AIR MINISTRY'S BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS.

DETAILS OF BIG RAID ON MANNHEIM ON MAY 9.

EFFECT OF DISLOCATION OF COMMUNICATIONS.

EXTENSIVE DAMAGE CAUSED AT COLOGNE.

by

Wing Commander L. V. Fraser

[*One fairly frequently hears doubts expressed as to whether the British "master-plan" so consistently adhered to, of bombing industrial centres and communication is* ***really*** *winning the war. It has been difficult to answer for want of information. Here is an article with vivid details well authenticated. E.D.*]

I HAVE just been able to study information coming from inside Germany of the increasing damage and disorganisation caused by the Royal Air Force raids. There is news in particular of the results of the big bombing raid on Mannheim on May 9—news which, of course, takes its time in coming, but which offers an extraordinarily interesting comparison with the brief announcement of the British Air Ministry at the time. On the day after this big attack on Mannheim a British Air Ministry communiqué said:—"Last night the main attack by aircraft of the Bomber Command was directed against industrial targets at Mannheim and Ludwigshaven. The weather was good and the attack was concentrated and destructive."

Information that has now been assembled from various sources shows that the principal damage on that night was to the Daimler-Benz armoured car factory, which was then doubtless working overtime to prepare for war on the eastern front, and the Heinrich Lanz machine-tool works. In the Daimler-Benz factory only 50 per cent of the employees were able to return after the attack, and those who did return were mostly engaged on repairs. It was considered at the time that it would be three to four months before the factory could be in full working order again.

The Heinrich Lanz factory, it was reported, was equally badly damaged. Many water mains were broken by the bombing, and in consequence huge fires raged unchecked. In the warehouses taken over by Government, 1,200 tons of corn and 1,50C tons of peas were destroyed.

Mannheim is a great railway centre as well as the site of many heavy industries. The cutting of communications to and from the city is as importanf as the destruction of war factories. In early May the railway system of Mannheim had more than 70 direct hits. The railway line to Mickarau was out of service for a long time as a result of serious damage. Traffic over the important railway bridge between Mannheim and its suburb of Ludwigshaven across the Rhine was greatly reduced, and sometimes stopped altogether, for days at a time. Reconnaissance at the end of May showed great lack of activity on the railways south of Mannheim station, and on the lines across the Rhine There was no traffic on the bridge and the approaches across the river. Disorganisation of traffic can never be merely local, and the breakdown in the railways of the west was probably having its effect hundreds of miles further east.

Reports have already been published of the cutting of the main artery for traffic south of Cologne, on the east bank of the Rhine. This artery was severed by an attack on the Germbery marshalling yard at Cologne. Evidence showed that the bombs could not have been better placed for putting the yard out of action. It has been learned that many trucks and carriages were burning near the Cologne railway station the morning after the attack. The station itself was hit, and at least 100 goods wagons were destroyed. About a fortnight later the main station was again damaged in another attack. Among other damage reported at Cologne, the Muelheim bridge was hit, and warehouses of the Rhine Shipping Company to the south of the bridge were burnt out.

In June, the Denz marshalling yard near the centre of Cologne on the east bank of the Rhine received direct hits. Workshops and railway sheds were destroyed. On one night in June the Thyssen steel works at Duisburg received six direct hits, and the oil tank in a coal-liquifying plant was set afire. Three thousand employees of the steel works could not go back to work.

There is much evidence also of the effectiveness of British daylight bombing on factories used by Germany in France. Industries taken over by the Germans in the district of Lille were dislocated by successful attacks on power stations supplying the area. Steel works at Lille were hit in their vital parts. Coal production has been seriously affected by the destruction of power plants.

What I have been able to disclose above represents, of course, no more than the lifting of the curtain. It is only part of the trustworthy information now in possession of the British Air Ministry. But it tells something of what lies behind the familiar and oft-repeated communiqué :—" A strong force of aircraft of the Royal Air Force Bomber Command attacked industries and communications in Western Germany last night......" The bomber crews know what they have hit, but the full picture of destruction as seen from the ground cannot be completely revealed until the end of the war. Meanwhile, the success and growing weight of the British bombing offensive can be to some extent measured by the kind of indications of increasing damage and disorganisation, such as I have mentioned as coming from within Germany itself.

THROUGH AMERICAN EYES.

I

GERMAN OFFICERS WHO LISTEN TO BRITISH BROADCASTS.

IRAN—" WHOLE FLOCK OF BIRDS KILLED WITH ONE STONE".

" TROUBLED DAYS LOOMING AHEAD" IN FRANCE.

TWO SHIPS A DAY.

United Press Washington Correspondent, August 25.—A Maritime Commission official has announced that the emergency ship construction programme will produce a new vessel every day in December. By mid-1942 the Commission expects two launchings daily.

THEY WANT "REAL NEWS"!

The New York Times, August 26.—Refugee passengers and Americans returning from Europe aboard the liner *Excalibur* declared that disillusionment was growing among German military and police ranks, and reported instances of German officers actually seeking an opportunity to listen to British broadcasts and other news from outside. One passenger who when asked his name withheld it, fearing reprisals against his relatives in the Reich said he had been asked by Gestapo agents whom he knew to direct them to an English broadcast, which he did. He accompanied the men to a private home at great risk to its owner and himself, but the agents said nothing except express gratitude for the opportunity to hear " real news."

"MASTER KEY TO BACKDOOR OF ASIA".

The New York Times, August 27.—By forestalling Nazi occupation of a base for operations in Iran against the Middle East and India, the British have killed a whole flock of birds with one stone. They control the vital land route to India. They are in possession of the immense oil resources of Iran in addition to those of Iraq. They have plugged up the last hole in the blockade of Europe, and are in a position to reinforce by air power and ground troops the Russian defence of the Caucasian oilfields. They can also bolster up Turkish resistance to Axis pressure. Overshadowing these large gains, however, is the opening of a supply line to Russia. A German-built railway is the prize—a modern artery connecting the Caucasus with the Persian Gulf. It is a ready-made route for supplies and reinforcementa to the Soviet. It is likewise of great interest and value to the United States. Iran may turn out to be the master key to the backdoor of Asia.

A SHAM REVOLUTION AND THE REAL ONE.

The New York Times, August 28.—That Laval should be the first victim of the rising French resentment against the betrayal of Francc for "collaboration" with Germany is natural. He and Deat knew they were marked and hated men. Laval's career, perhaps, has not ended, but the shots which struck him will echo far beyond Versailles in the troubled days which clearly loom ahead. A new revolutionary spirit is manifest in France, which will have nothing to do with Pétain's sham revolution. The Nazi iron heel has set to stamp it out, but the attack on Laval with the certainty of penalties is merely a symptom of how deep the spirit of revolt has become.

II

WHAT THE GERMAN ARMY IS "IN FOR" IN RUSSIA.

THE NEW ORDER: "ALL HOPE ABANDON YE WHO ENTER HERE".

HOW FAR IS THE UNITED STATES IN THE WAR?

THE ANGLO-RUSSIAN ENTRY INTO IRAN.

The Denver Post, August 26:—It may be that the German people are dumb enough to swallow Nazi propaganda about the Anglo-Russian invasion of Iran being an outrage. People who will tolerate Hitlerism might be expected to swallow anything. But certainly the German protests will not be misunderstood in any other country. The bitterness with which the

Nazis denounce the Iran invasion shows what a blow it is to them. Actually, what they are hollering about is that Britain and Russia have beaten them to a draw.

"THE TURNING POINT".

John Scott in the New Republic, September 1:—Regardless of the outcome of the current military operations in Russia, Germany is losing the war. The attack on the Soviet is the turning point. Hitler has nothing to show for the heavy losses, except a war on two fronts and a completely blockaded Germany. He is fighting against an immense country whose economic resources for two years had been placed partially at his disposal, and which now is solidly and fanatically anti-Nazi. The Russian people are fighting, and it is they rather than the army who are defeating Germany. Hitler calculated to finish the campaign by the end of August, and was not prepared for entering Russia under combat conditions. The German army is in for a bad time.

NO INDEPENDENCE UNDER HITLER.

Ann McCormick in the New York Times, September 1:—There is one lesson that stands out above all others at the end of two years of war, and it is that there can be no shred or shadow of independence in Hitler's "New Order." If he conquers the Ukraine, it will be another Poland. And this in the end will defeat him. He has made his purpose clear to too many people. In two years he has proved by his actions that this was an inevitable war, and wherever he prevails he has demonstrated that he offers an impossible peace. Hitler repeats on the threshold of his "New Order" the motto written by Dante on the gates of hell: "All hope abandon ye who enter here."

THE NEW NAPOLEON AND HIS ELBA.

The Los Angeles Times, August 31:—A conservative weighting of the probabilities indicates that Europe's new Napoleon is nearer his Elba now than he was a year ago. To his fatal blunder of June, 1940, of failing to strike with all his force at the then staggering England, he has added another gigantic error of judgment in attacking Russia. The longer he pursues his unprovoked war upon his former partner, the more likely it appears that victory over the Bear, if and when it is achieved, will be pyrrhic. The more men, munitions, air strength and, above all, time he loses on the eastern front, the less becomes his chance of ultimately conquering his most formidable foe, Britain. With every week that the German war machine continues to be engrossed in Russia, the might of England is increasing by leaps and bounds. By next spring American aid should be reaching England in such volume as to render her, not only impregnable in defence, but of such superiority in the air as to make possible a really formidable offensive on her own account.

THE UNITED STATES AND WAR.

The New York Times, September 3 :—An Axis spokesman says that President Roosevelt, in his speech on Labour Day, used the language of the Head of a State at war. If he means that Roosevelt spoke as the leader of a nation which has chosen sides and taken a hand in the battle, he is right. The United States is no longer neutral. It is no longer under side-lines. It has made its choice. It is a belligerent to-day, in the sense and to the degree that it has become part of a service of supply, that leads from its own factories to the battle-line. It is not by a personal decision of the President but by the decision of Congress that we assumed this róle. A definitive action was the passage of the Lease and Lend Act. With the passage of that Act, we threw away all pretensions of neutrality. The Axis spokesman is right. A nation which is engaged in a gigantic effort to turn out war materials at its own cost for the deliberate purpose of arming one belligerent against another is not at peace. It has made itself an open ally of those nations whose survival it regarded as vital to its own defence. To this point and for this purpose it has already gone to war.

THE ATLANTIC CHARTER.

The Choice Before the World.

CHURCHILL-ROOSEVELT.	HITLER.
1. "**Their countries seek no aggrandisement, territorial or other.**"	1. "We must have Europe and its colonies.........**Germany will spread its might far beyond its borders in the East as well as in the South-East**.........We have a right to South America...... Natural instincts bid all living beings not merely conquer their enemies but destroy them." (*Hitler Speaks*).
2. "**They desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned.**"	2. "This struggle will open to us the door to **permanent mastery of the world**......There will still be the class of **subject alien races**. We need not hesitate to call them **the modern slave class**." (*Hitler Speaks*).

3. " They respect the rights of **all peoples** to choose the form of Government under which they will live, and **they wish to see sovereign rights and self-government restored to those who have been forcibly deprived of them.**"

3. " The day of small states is past ......We do not seek equality but mastery. **We shall not waste time over minority rights and other such ideological abortions of sterile democracy.**" (*Hitler Speaks*).

4. " They will endeavour with due respect to their existing obligations **to further the enjoyment by all states, great or small, victor or vanquished, of access on equal terms to the trade and the raw materials of the world which are needed for their economic prosperity.**"

4. " After the end of the war Germany must **digest the incorporated territories.** From the economic point of view this means **adjustment to the German economy.**" (*Voelkischer Beobachter*, 20-8-40).

"Our superior industrial products will be sold at very low prices to the whole world, and will for example cause the United States to have **not 7,000,000 but 30-40,000,000 unemployed.** Mr. Roosevelt will then beg the Fuehrer on his knees to purchase from the U. S. not manufactured products but **raw materials at prices which we will dictate.**" (*Nazi Agriculture Minister Darré to party officials, May* 1940).

5. " They desire to bring about the fullest collaboration between all nations in the economic field, with the object of securing for all **improved labour standards, economic advancement and social progress.**"

5. " **All soil and industrial property of inhabitants of non-German origin will be confiscated without exception,** and distributed among the worthy members of the Party, and soldiers who were accorded honours for bravery in this war......**This German aristocracy will have slaves assigned to it**, these slaves to be their property and to consist of landless, non-German nationals. We actually have in mind **a modern form of mediaeva' slavery which we must and will introduce......**Work must be as cheap as possible in order that our economic conquest may spread extensively and rapidly." (*Darré*).

6. " After the final destruction of Nazi tyranny they hope to see established a peace which will afford to all nations the means of dwelling in safety within their own boundaries, and which will afford assurances **that all the men in all the lands may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want.**"

6. " **The world can only be ruled by fear**......Terror is the most effective political instrument......**I recognise no moral law in politics**......There will be no license, no free space, in which the individual belongs to himself.' (*Hitler Speaks*).

7. " **Such a peace should enable all men to traverse the high seas and oceans without hindrance.**"

7. " **The German navy will be expanded to a strength worthy of a world power.** It will carry the German flag and the German name over the face of the globe." (*Admiral Raeder, 28th January 1941*).

8. " They believe that all the nations of the world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons, must come to the **abandonment of the use of force.** Since no future peace can be maintained if land, sea or air armaments continue to be employed by nations which threaten or may threaten aggression outside of their country, they believe, pending the establishment of a wider and permanent system of general security, that the disarmament of such nations is essential. **They will likewise aid and encourage all other practicable methods which will lighten for peaceloving peoples the crushing burden of armaments.**"

8. " **War is eternal. War is universal. War is life.**" (*Hitler Speaks*).

" After the war, **armament will go on at the present rate** bringing new world power to Germany."
(*Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, 2–9–40)

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED.

A Commentary on Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East.

For the period September 15—21, 1941.

Iran—

"According to Arabian papers, the British troops in Iran are not only confiscating the stores of grain but also other food-stuffs. Iran is threatened by famine. In spite of all this the blame was being put on Germany's shoulders." (*German Talk in English Sept. 17*).

The Governments of the U. S. S. R. and Great Britain are exporting wheat and sugar to Iran. Soviet vessels are carrying, to Iranian ports on the Caspian, flour, sugar, and cotton piece goods. The British supplied 700 tons of flour to the oil areas on September 12.

The first consignment of 43,000 tons of sugar ordered from the Dutch East Indies through British and Dutch interests has left for Iran.

"The Teheran Radio announced that the Iranian Prime Minister called a special meeting of the Cabinet yesterday and said that the British and Soviet occupation of the major portion of Iran had greatly aggravated her distress." (*German News in Hindustani, Sept. 18.*)

The Iranian Premier, addressing the Majlis on September 17, announced the approach of the Allied forces and said: "Members should be easy in their minds, for they have no hostile intentions. They have assured us of this and we are certain we can rely on this promise."

"The treatment by the British and the Soviet of the inhabitants of Teheran was very inhuman. Chaos and confusion is now sweeping the whole country." (*German News in Hindustani, Sept. 19.*)

"We welcome the British, and that is why there was no real resistance...... The Russian invasion caused panic in the north and especially in Teheran itself. But that has been quickly dissipated. The stories of Red Army shooting and looting are vastly exaggerated by German agents......The British Indian command did a splendid job with as little bloodshed as seemed humanly possible." A prominent Teheran business man, quoted by Ray Brock, *New York Times* correspondent in Ankara, Sept. 15.

"An English Committee of experts is to examine and estimate the value of the Iran Crown jewels...........

The Committee which is to inspect the Crown jewels is an Iranian Parliamentary Committee consisting of and

preliminary work for securing them... Every country which has become the victim of Britain's war expansion has lost its gold reserves and its Crown jewels." (*German News in German Sept. 19.*)

appointed by Iranians. The attempt of Rashid Ali to convey loot out of Iraq is a near enough example to justify this Iranian precaution.

The only wealth lost by countries which have become "the victims of Britain's war expansion" (Berlin's phrase for armed invasion by Germany), is that which remained for the Nazis to plunder. Wherever national assets have been removed out of reach of the German robbers they remain in the possession of the country concerned (e. g., Holland and Norway) through its legitimate representatives, the temporarily exiled sovereign and his ministers.

Syria—

"The Syrians and the Arabs have fully realised that the British are the enemies of Islam and the Arabs, and it is they who are responsible for all their misfortunes." (*German News in Arabic and Persian, Sept. 10.*)

"The British make promises never to fulfill them. No more can they deceive the world in general and the Arabs in particular." (*German News in Persian and Arabic, Sept. 11.*)

"In Syria demonstrations are being carried out against the Cabinet...... the Syrians have learnt that the British are trying to change her into a dependency." (*Italian News in Arabic, Sept. 19.*)

On Sept. 9 Mr. Churchill said in Parliament "our policy, to which our Free French allies have subscribed, is that Syria shall be handed back to the Syrians who will assume at the earliest possible moment their independent sovereign rights."

On Sept 16, General Catroux C.-in-C. of the Free French forces in the Levant, acting in the name of the Allies, restored the Syrian republic, vesting it with authority. Sheikh Taj Eddin al Hassani, the new President declared "We have entered to-day into the circle of the great allied democracies."

The Arab Press featured Mr. Churchill's references prominently. The *Falastin* in an editorial said: "Britain's solicitude for Syria's future deserves the appreciation of all Arab peoples." *Al Diffa* said: "Mr. Churchill's Syria-Lebanon declaration will have far-reaching effects.........it manifests good intentions."

THE THINGS WHICH MUST NOT COME.

The Velvet Glove.

"Hitler's New Order promises men a life of freedom as inheritors of the benefits of their own toil."—*Nazi broadcast to Spain, July 25, 1941.*

"National Socialist freedom is national freedom for all nations."—*German broadcast to Holland, Aug. 5.*

"In the New Europe culture will remain on the highest level."—*German broadcast to Germany, Aug. 18, 1941.*

"Hitler, speaking for Europe as a whole, has proclaimed the doctrine of Europe for the Europeans, and America for the Americans. The new Europe respects the Monroe Doctrine."—*Berlin-Rome-Tokyo radio, July 3, 1940.*

The Mailed Fist.

"The Fuehrer has said it is the will of the creator that the earth should be a field of battle. It is the deepest conviction of Hitler that fighting is the fulfilment of divine law."—*German broadcast July 1940.*

"Experience has taught us that the peace of Europe requires strong leadership and hegemony by a country which is capable of keeping order. This is Germany's due."—*Nazi controlled Finnish radio, Aug. 17, 1941.*

"In this New Order leadership will naturally enough be in the hands of the German people who are a nation of organic thinkers."—*Hilversum Radio, Nov. 9, 1940.*

"Transfer 80,000,000 Germans to America and they would make that land a paradise."—*Hamburger Fremdenblatt, March 20, 1941.*

Correction.—The British losses in Greece were **7,658** men and **not 75,658** men as stated in the last paragraph of the second column, page 37, "Axis Speaks" Bulletin 63.

PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

Pudukkottai State War Information Bureau.

1941—

LECTURE LXIV—(*Batch 1*).

October ...	4, Saturday ...	Town Hall	...	6.30 p. m.
	5, Sunday ...	Poovarasagudi	...	6.00 p. m.
		Venkatakulam	...	6.30 p. m.
	6, Monday ...	Perungalur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Adanakkottai	...	6.30 p. m.
	7, Tuesday ...	Malampatti	...	6.00 p. m.
		Parambur	...	6.30 p. m.
	8, Wednesday	Arimalam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Kilanilaikottai	...	6.30 p. m.
	9, Thursday ...	Kiranur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Nanjur	...	6.30 p. m.
	10, Friday ...	Odayalippatti	...	6.00 p. m.
		Killukottai	...	6.30 p. m.

LECTURE LXV—(*Batch 2*).

	11, Saturday ...	Town Hall	...	6.30 p. m.
	12, Sunday ...	Vayalogam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Kudumiamalai	...	6.30 p. m.
	13, Monday ...	Nachandupatti	...	6.00 p. m.
		Virachilai	...	6.30 p. m.
	14, Tuesday ...	College (A) English	...	10.15 a. m.
		Perumanadu	...	6.00 p. m.
		Pulvayal	...	6.30 p. m.
	15, Wednesday	C. S. M. High School	...	10.00 a. m.
		College (B) Tamil	...	10.15 a. m.
		Rani's High School	...	10.15 a. m.
		Tirumayyam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Konapet	...	6.30 p. m.
	16, Thursday ...	Panayappatti	...	6.00 p. m.
		Rangiam	...	6.30 p. m.
	17, Friday ...	Kodumbalur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Viralimalai	...	6.30 p. m.

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